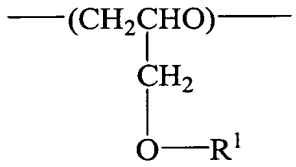
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of controlling rheology of oil, comprising adding to an oil a polyether having monomeric units having the formula (I):



(I)

wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of ethyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, t-butyl, octyl, 2-ethylhexyl, and mixtures thereof ~~in which R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 42 carbon atoms~~, which may have at least one substituent, or a group of $-(AO)_m-R^2$, wherein R^2 is ~~being~~ a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 28 carbon atoms, which may have at least one substituent, A is ~~being~~ an alkylene group having 2 or 3 carbon atoms, m is ~~being~~ a number of 1 to 100, and A in the number of m is ~~being~~ the same as or different from one another[[.]], wherein said oil has an improved elastic modulus and maintains flowability.

2. (Original): The method as claimed in Claim 1, ~~in which the~~ wherein said polyether has a molar fraction of the units (I) in the range between 0.1 and less than 1.0.

3. (Original): The method as claimed in Claim 1, ~~in which the~~ wherein said oil is a non-aqueous fluidal liquid at 25 °C.

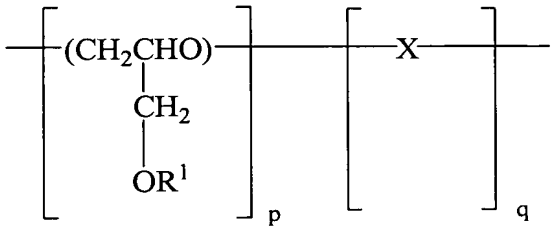
4. (Original): The method as claimed in Claim 1, ~~in which the~~ wherein said polyether is added in an amount of 0.001 to 100 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the oil.

5. (Original): An oil composition comprising oil and the polyether as defined in Claim 1.

6. (Canceled)

7. (New): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of ethyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, t-butyl and mixtures thereof.

8. (New): A method of controlling rheology of oil, comprising adding to an oil a copolymer having the formula (II):



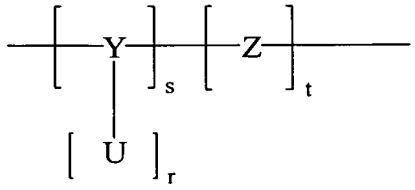
(II)

wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 42 carbon atoms, which may have at least one substituent, or a group of $-(AO)_m-R^2$, wherein R^2 is a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 28 carbon atoms, which may have at least one substituent, A is an alkylene group having 2 or 3 carbon atoms, m is a number of 1 to 100, A in the number of m is the same as or different from one another, p is 10 to 2,000,000 and q is 0 to 100,000,

where X is a monomeric unit that is copolymerizable with the monomeric unit (I) and wherein said oil has an improved elastic modulus and maintains flowability.

Claim 9 (New): A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein X is selected from the group consisting of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, alkylene oxides having 4 to 18 carbon atoms, epichlorohydrin, fluoroalkyl glycidyl ethers, oxetane, lactones, carbonates, lactams, hexamethylcyclotrisiloxane, acrylates, methacrylates, styrene, butadiene, isoprene, vinyl ethers, carbon dioxide, terminal olefins having 5 to 22 carbon atoms and mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (New): A method of controlling rheology of oil comprising adding to an oil a copolymer having the formula (III-1):



(III-1)

where Y is a monomeric unit that can copolymerize with the monomer unit of Formula (I); and

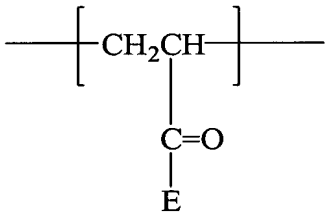
Z is a monomeric unit that can copolymerize with the monomeric unit Y;

U is $-CH_zCH(CH_2\text{-}O\text{-}R^1)\text{-}O-$ or $-O\text{-}CH(CH_2\text{-}O\text{-}R^1)\text{-}CH_2-$; and

R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 42 carbon atom, which may have at least one substituent, or a group of $-(AO)_m\text{-}R^2$, wherein R^2 is a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 28 carbon atoms, which may have at least one substituent, A is an alkylene group having 2 or 3 carbon atoms, m is a number of 1 to 100, A in the number of m is the same as or different from one another, r is 1 to 1,000,000, s is 1 to 100,000 and t is 0 to 10,000 and

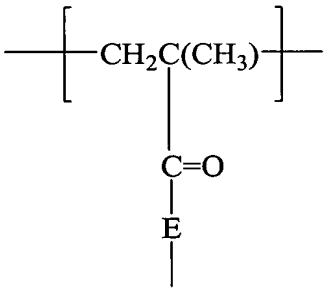
wherein said oil has an improved elastic modulus and maintains flowability.

11. (New): A method as claimed in Claim10 wherein Y is at least one monomeric unit selected from the group consisting of polybutadiene, polyisoprene, amorphous polypropylene, polyallylamine, polyethyleneimine, an epoxy resin, polyamide, compounds of Formula IV,

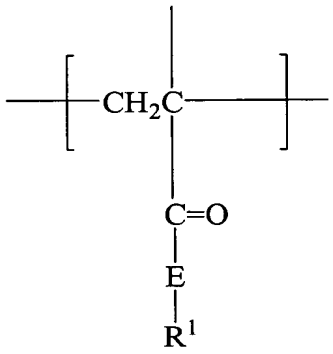


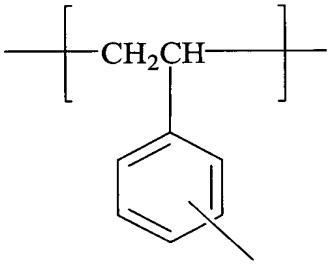
(IV),

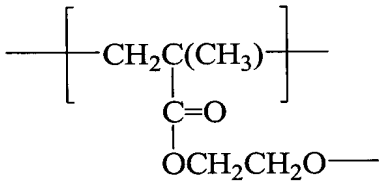
Formula V



(V),

Formula VI  (VI),

Formula VII  (VII),

Formula VIII  (VIII), and mixtures thereof, and

wherein E is an oxygen atom or an NH group and wherein Z is a monomeric unit selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid esters, methacrylic acid esters, styrene, butadiene, isoprene, vinyl ethers and mixtures thereof.

12. (New): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the storage modulus of said oil is increased by at least a factor of two.

13. (New): A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the storage modulus of said oil is increased by at least a factor of two.

14. (New): A method as claimed in Claim 10 wherein the storage modulus of said oil is increased by at least a factor of two.

15. (New): A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said oil is selected from the group consisting of, hydrocarbons, toluene, xylene, liquid paraffin, squarane, petroleum ether, alcohols, ethanol, glycerol, cresol, ethers, ketones, anisole, dioxane, 1,2-

dimethoxyethane, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, cyclohexanone, esters, ethyl acetate, isopropyl palmitate, γ-buytrolactones, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, lactates, ethylene carbonate, chloroform, tricholoroethane, carbon disulfide, dimethyl sulfoxide, acetonitrile, pyridine, nitrobenzene, fats, oils, palm oil, olive oil, silicone oils, silicones and mixtures thereof.

16. (New): A method as claimed in Claim 8 wherein said oil is selected from the group consisting of, hydrocarbons, toluene, xylene, liquid paraffin, squarane, petroleum ether, alcohols, ethanol, glycerol, cresol, ethers, ketones, anisole, dioxane, 1,2-dimethoxyethane, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, cyclohexanone, esters, ethyl acetate, isopropyl palmitate, γ-buytrolactones, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, lactates, ethylene carbonate, chloroform, tricholoroethane, carbon disulfide, dimethyl sulfoxide, acetonitrile, pyridine, nitrobenzene, fats, oils, palm oil, olive oil, silicone oils, silicones and mixtures thereof.

17. (New): A method as claimed in Claim 10 wherein said oil is selected from the group consisting of, hydrocarbons, toluene, xylene, liquid paraffin, squarane, petroleum ether, alcohols, ethanol, glycerol, cresol, ethers, ketones, anisole, dioxane, 1,2-dimethoxyethane, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, cyclohexanone, esters, ethyl acetate, isopropyl palmitate, γ-buytrolactones, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, lactates, ethylene carbonate, chloroform, tricholoroethane, carbon disulfide, dimethyl sulfoxide, acetonitrile, pyridine, nitrobenzene, fats, oils, palm oil, olive oil, silicone oils, silicones and mixtures thereof.

18. (New): The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said oil is a non-aqueous fluidal liquid at 25 °C.

19. (New): The method as claimed in Claim 8, wherein said copolymer is added in an amount of 0.001 to 100 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the oil.

20. (New): An oil composition comprising oil and the copolymer as defined in Claim 8.

21. (New): The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said oil is a non-aqueous fluidal liquid at 25 °C.

22. (New): The method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein said copolymer is added in an amount of 0.0001 to 100 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the oil.

23. (New): An oil composition comprising oil and the copolymer as defined in Claim 10.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 is currently amended.

Claims 2-5 are original.

Claims 6 is canceled.

Claims 7-23 are new.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-5 and 7-23 will be active.

Claims 1 and 7 are fully supported by original Claim 1.

Claims 8 and 9 are supported in the specification on page 5, line 11 to page 7, line 21.

Claims 10 and 11 are supported in the specification on page 5, line 11 to page 9.

Claims 12-14 are supported on page 2, lines 9-15.

Claims 15-17 are supported on page 10, line 20 to page 11, line 12.

Claims 18 and 21 are supported on page 10, lines 20-23.

Claims 19 and 22 are supported on page 11, lines 14-20.

Claims 20 and 23 are supported on pages 11-14.

Because the claim amendments and all new claims are fully supported by the specification, no new matter is believed to have been added by the amendments.